UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/009,659	10/30/2001	Robert C. Booth	GIC-573	8394

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EXAMINER
SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2154	

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/009,659	BOOTH, ROBERT C.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mohammad A. Siddiqi	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 October 2001</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-49</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-49</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>30 October 2001</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/11/05,02/04/02</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-49 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in

this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3.   Claims 1-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated

by Mao et al. (6,886,178) (hereinafter Mao).

4.   As per claims 1, 25, 48, and 49, Mao discloses protocol agent

apparatus and method in a communication system, comprising:

        means for receiving input data from at least one protocol handler

(10, fig 1, col 6, lines 14–37);

means for processing the input data to provide corresponding

output data according to a desired data protocol (10, fig 1, col 6, lines 14-

37);

wherein said processing means comprises means for attaching

at least one identifier to the output data to identify the desired data protocol

thereof (tags, 10, fig 1, col 6, lines 14-37); and

means for providing the output data with the at least one attached

identifier to at least one client or server via the system (tags, 34, 38, fig 1,

col 6, lines 14-37).

5.   As per claim 2, Mao discloses said processing means comprises means

for encoding the input data to provide it in the desired data protocol (10, fig

1, col 6, lines 14-37);

wherein the desired data   protocol differs from a protocol in which the input

data is provided from the protocol handler (col 5, lines 20-36; col 6, lines

14-36; lines 60-67).

6.   As per claims 3 and 27, Mao discloses said processing means

comprises means for bypassing said encoding means when the desired data

protocol corresponds to the protocol in which the input data is provided from

the protocol handler (col 4, lines 5-22).

7.   As per claim 4, Mao discloses the at least one attached identifier

further designates the protocol in which the input data is provided from the

protocol handler (col 4, lines 5-22).

8.   As per claim 5, Mao discloses means for encrypting and/or signing the

input data (encoding, elements of fig 1, col 6, lines 5-26);

   wherein the attaching means attaches at least one identifier to the output

data to identify the encryption and/or signing that was applied (elements of

fig 1, col 6, lines 5-26).

9.   As per claim 6, Mao discloses said processing means comprises means

for bypassing said encrypting and/or signing means (elements of fig 1, col 6,

lines 5-26).

10.   As per claim 7, Mao discloses the protocol handler is provided at a

server 10, fig 1); and

   the output data with the at least one attached identifier is provided to

at least one client (40, fig 1).

11.   As per claim 8, Mao discloses the output data with the at least one

attached identifier is provided to the at least one client using at least one of

a unidirectional protocol and a bi-directional protocol (201, fig 2).

12.   As per claim 9, Mao discloses the at least one of a unidirectional

protocol and a bi-directional protocol is provided via an out-of-band

downstream data channel of a network (HTML, elements of fig 2).

13.   As per claim 10, Mao discloses the at least one of a unidirectional

protocol and a bi-directional protocol is provided via an in-band downstream

data channel of a network (MPEG, fig 2).

14.   As per claim 11, Mao discloses the output data with the attached

identifier is provided to the at least one client using one of broadcast,

multicast, and single-cast communication (col 4, lines 5-10).

15.   As per claim 12, Mao discloses the protocol of the broadcast, multicast,

or single-cast communication uses a packetized transport stream standard

(col 4, lines 5-10).

16.   As per claim 13, Mao discloses the protocol of the broadcast, multicast,

or single-cast communication uses an analog vertical blanking interval of a

television signal to carry the output data (col 3, lines 20-40; col 4, lines 5-

10).

17.   As per claim 14, Mao discloses   the protocol of the broadcast,

multicast, or single-cast communication carries the output data using at

least one of: a User Datagram Protocol (UDP), a Transmission Control

Protocol (TCP), and an Internet Protocol (IP) (46, fig 1).

18.   As per claim 15, Mao discloses the protocol handler is provided at a

client (201, fig 2); and

        the output data with the at least one attached identifier is provided to

at least one server (col 4, lines 4-40).

19.   As per claim 16, Mao discloses the output data with the at least one

attached identifier is provided to the server using at least one of a

unidirectional protocol and a bi-directional protocol (HTML, col 4, lines 13-

40).

20.   As per claim 17, Mao discloses the output data with the at least one

attached identifier is provided to the server using one of broadcast,

multicast, and single-cast communication (col 4, lines 6-40).

21.   As per claim 18, Mao discloses the broadcast, multicast, or single-cast

communication carries the output data using at least one of: a User

Datagram Protocol (UDP), a Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), and an

Internet Protocol (IP) (Internet, fig 1).

22.   As per claim 19, Mao discloses the output data is provided according to

at least one of a cable modem standard and a telephone system standard

(38, fig 1).

23.   As per claim 20, Mao discloses the output data is provided according to

a random network contention standard (34, fig 1).

24.   As per claim 21, Mao discloses the client comprises a subscriber

terminal (40, fig 1).

25.   As per claim 22, Mao discloses the system comprises at least one of a broadband cable, satellite, wireless, Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM), and a Digital Subscriber Loop (DSL) communication network (satellite, fig 1).

26.   As per claim 23, Mao discloses the attaching means provides the at least one attached identifier in a header associated with the output data (col 4, lines 6-40).

27.   As per claim 24, Mao discloses the attaching means provides the at least one attached identifier in a header associated with packets of the output data (col 4, lines 6-40).

28.   As per claim 26, Mao discloses said processing means comprises means for decoding the input data to provide it according to the desired data protocol (col 6, lines 14-37);

    wherein the desired data protocol differs from the protocol in which the input data is provided (col 6, lines 14-37).

29.   As per claim 28, Mao discloses at least one further identifier is attached to the input data to identify encryption and/or signing that was applied thereto (col 6, lines 1-13); and

said processing means further comprises means for decrypting

and/or verifying a signature of the input data according to the at least one

further identifier (col 6, lines 1-13).

30.   As per claims 29-47 are rejected for the same reasons as claims 1-24,

above.

Conclusion

31.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered

pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent 6,968,394
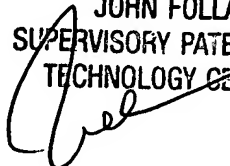
U.S. Patent 7,096,484

U.S. Patent 6,452,923

32.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications

from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A. Siddiqi whose

telephone number is (571) 272-3976. The examiner can normally be

reached on Monday -Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-

3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MAS

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